

A1
A1 and B1
B1 and B2

c) eluting the nucleic acid from the metal oxide support material, thereby separating the nucleic acid from the test sample.

9. (Amended) The method of claim 7 wherein the nucleic acid is separated from a test sample comprising more than one source of nucleic acid.

10. (Amended) The method of claim 9 wherein the nucleic acid separated from the test sample comprises RNA and DNA.

A2
A2 and B2
B2

11. (Amended) A kit for separating nucleic acid from a test sample comprising:

- a) metal oxide particles, wherein the metal oxide particles are capable of forming nucleic acid/metal oxide complexes when the metal oxide particles are contacted with nucleic acids;
- b) a binding buffer comprising
 - (i) a chaotropic reagent, and
 - (ii) a detergent; and
- c) an elution buffer comprising water.

12. (New) The method of claim 8 wherein the step of amplifying the nucleic acid is performed without removal of the elution buffer.

A3

13. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein eluting the nucleic acid from the metal oxide support material comprises contacting

the complexes with an elution buffer having a pH of between 6 and 10.

14. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein eluting the nucleic acid from the metal oxide support material comprises contacting the complexes with an elution buffer having a pH of between 7 and 9.

15. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein eluting the nucleic acid from the metal oxide support material comprises contacting the complexes with an elution buffer comprising a sodium phosphate or organophosphate compound such that the phosphate concentration in the elution buffer is from 10 mM to 300 mM.

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16. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein eluting the nucleic acid from the metal oxide support material comprises contacting the complexes with an elution buffer comprising a sodium phosphate or organophosphate compound such that the phosphate concentration in the elution buffer is from 10 mM to 100 mM.

REMARKS

Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement

Applicant filed a supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, along with other papers, on March 24, 2000, but has not yet received an Examiner initialed and signed copy of the PTO-Form 1449. Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to provide a copy of the Form 1449 with the Examiner's initials next to each reference listed to indicate that the Examiner has considered the references and made the references of record.